

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT NO.

TOPIC Soviet Troops in Schwerin

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EVALUATION see below

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25X1 DATE PREPARED 15 April 1952

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PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 26 March 1952, the Hindenburg Kaserne on Guestrower Strasse, Schwerin (M 54/1 46), quartered about 1,500 troops most of whom wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and some black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia. Prior to 14 March, the installation had an estimated 3,000 troops who were engaged in intensive training activity. There was hardly any training on 26 March. Twelve 82-mm mortars were in the barracks yard on 12 March. One model M-13 rocket launcher stood in the yard on 14 March. Another model M-13 rocket launcher and a truck carrying a field kitchen drove from the Hindenburg Kaserne to the Schwerin railroad station.

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2. On 24 March, the Adolf Hitler Kaserne on Ludwigsluster Chaussee was occupied by about 4,000 troops most of whom wore black-bordered red epaulets and some red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and by uniformed women who wore black-bordered red epaulets. There was a great deal of training activity in the barracks yard and the adjacent training area. Two 37-mm AA guns were seen in the yard.

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3. On 24 March, the Fratsch Kaserne on Johann Stelling Strasse quartered 3,000 to 4,000 troops. Intensive vehicular traffic and training activity was noticed.

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4. On 24 March, the Moltke Kaserne on Ludwigsluster Strasse quartered about 2,500 troops. The installation was occupied to capacity. One T-34 tank was seen in the billeting area on 17 March, and 2 T-34 tanks, on 24 March.

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5. On 24 March, the Krueger Kaserne on Ludwigsluster Strasse quartered about 2,500 troops.

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6. On 26 March, the Goerries Fliegerhorst southwest of Schwerin was occupied by about 1,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia and signal insignia, and black-bordered black epaulets, including some with signal and engineer insignia. Little training activity was noticed. Troops conducted rifle fire at the target ranges. There were four masts, about 10 meters high at the radio station in the southeastern section of the training field.

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7. On 10 March, the Hindenburg Kaserne on Guestrower Strasse quartered 800 to 1,000 troops. Sentries wore red-bordered black epaulets. About 20 groups of soldiers drilled with small arms in the yard. No other training activity was noticed. A column of eight trucks, each carrying 10 to 16 soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets and towing 57-mm AT guns drove into the installation at night.

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8. On 10 March 1952, the Fritsch Kaserne on Johann-Stalling Strasse appeared to be vacant, as no soldiers were seen in the billeting area. Truck moved out of the installation. One of the barracks gates which had previously been guarded by a sentry was locked and no longer guarded.

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9. On 15 March, the Moltke Kaserne on Ludwigsluster Strasse was occupied to capacity by 800 to 1,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. Sentries wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. A convey of seven trucks, each carrying 18 to 20 soldiers, and towing two 122-mm field howitzers drove into the installation from the direction of Grivitz 15 km east-southeast of Schwerin.

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Troops organized into groups received infantry training in the yard and about 50 men practiced with four 122-mm field howitzers. No training was conducted on 15 March. About 25 trucks stood in front of the garages. Troops were engaged in maintenance work. Eight 122-mm field howitzers and 12 262-mm field guns were also noticed there.

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10. On 15 March, only little training activity was noticed with the troops in the Krueger Kaserne on Ludwigsluster Strasse. Individual groups of 10 to 12 men drilled with small arms. Two T-34/85 tanks were seen. About 150 soldiers were engaged in field training on the adjacent drill grounds. Three two-axle armored scout cars practiced driving in the tank area.

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11. On 17 March, the Adolf Hitler Kaserne on Ludwigsluster Chaussee was occupied to capacity by about 2,500 troops, one fifth of whom wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. Twelve T-34/85 tanks and three JU-3 tanks stood in the yard and were seen leaving the installation at noon, together with 12 trucks mounting troops.
- proceeding toward Stern-Buchholz. About 500 troops drilled in the yard with small arms at company and platoon level.

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12. On 22 March, the Fritsch Kaserne on Johann-Stalling Strasse quartered about 1,000 troops and uniformed women and a high-echelon headquarters was housed in its southern section. The troops wore black-bordered black epaulets, black-bordered

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red epaulets and red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank and signal insignia; and the uniformed women wore black-bordered black epaulets and red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. There was not much training activity between 11 and 22 March, and only individual groups of 10 to 15 men practiced. Intensive pedestrian traffic was noticed between the quarters. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] A review held in the Fritsch Kaserne on 23 February involved units from the various barracks installations in Schwerin. Specifically, the following units participated:

From the direction of the Krueger Kaserne and Moltke Kaserne.

A military band; two groups totaling 150 to 200 men; two groups of about 200 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia; and 1 group of about 100 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia.

From the direction of the Adolf Hitler Kaserne.

A military band of 15 pieces; about 500 troops wearing black-bordered red epaulets; 100 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. The latter group removed a wreath from truck [REDACTED]

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from the direction of the Hindenburg Kaserne.

A group of 50 to 75 men wearing black-bordered black epaulets and red-bordered black epaulets.

From the direction of Schlossgarten.

A group of 50 to 70 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with motor transport and signal insignia, and some wearing black-bordered black epaulets.

From the direction of Goerries. Ten trucks occupied to capacity by troops and [REDACTED] trucks [REDACTED] with soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets. 25X1

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At about 12 p.m., all units marched to the Soviet cemetery to deposit a wreath. The composition of the march column was: about 500 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia organized into five groups; 25 officers and about 200 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia; and three groups of about 100 men wearing black-bordered black epaulets and red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. The troops were badly dressed and their shoes were in an unusually neglected condition. At about 10 p.m. on 11 March, two truck convoys moved toward Schwerin from the direction of Ludwigsluster Chaussee near the Fritsch Kaserne. The first convoy consisted of 5 trucks [REDACTED] and the second convoy of 6 to 7 trucks. 25X1

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[REDACTED] towing one 57-mm AT gun, and trucks [REDACTED] 25X1
[REDACTED] All trucks were occupied to capacity by troops. Two field kitchens were noticed with the second column.

13. On 22 March, the Moltke Kaserne on Ludwigsluster Strasse quartered about 2,500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with tank and artillery insignia, and uniformed women who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. Troops in 6 or 7 units, of 50 men each, were engaged in close-order drill with and without rifles, in march practice and in callisthenic in the barracks yard. There was intensive activity in the quarters. Ten T-34 tanks stood in the yard and 4 other T-34s, [REDACTED] in the terrain opposite the Moltke Kaserne. Trucks [REDACTED] were in the yard. No vehicular traffic was noticed. Several trucks [REDACTED] loaded gasoline barrels from six earth bunkers in a fenced-in area east of the Moltke Kaserne. The trucks were later seen departing toward the Fritsch Kaserne.

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14. On 21 March, the Krueger Kaserne on Ludwigsluster Strasse was occupied by about 3,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. About 300 troops in groups of about 50 were at close-order drill and callisthenics and firing practice with two mortars of about 120 mm in the barracks yard. [REDACTED]

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15. On 16 March, a unit of 20 men wearing black-bordered black epaulets and black-bordered red epaulets marched into the officers' school on Voethe Strasse.

25X1 Another 20 men were in the yard. Sedan [] and 2 more sedans [] 25X1
25X1 [] were parked in front of the school.

16. On 16 March, about 20 troops with red-bordered black epaulets marched into the former Beethovensschule on Rudolf Breitscheidstrasse, formerly Muecher Strasse. One sedan and 1 truck stood in the yard of the school.

17. On 22 March, about 250 men in groups were engaged in intensive training activity on the training grounds at Zippendorf. From 25 to 30 more troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets strung telephone lines and about 20 officers practiced with three guns of an undetermined caliber. About 10 sedans and 20 trucks, [] were parked in the southern section of the drill grounds.

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19. Prior to 15 March, intensive traffic of sedans was noticed in front of a building of Goerries airfield southwest of Schwerin. The building quartered a signal unit. The ratio between officers and N was estimated at 1 to 4. The signal unit, which had practiced the construction of telephone lines during the preceding weeks, was engaged in close-order drill in groups with small arms or without arms. An engineer unit stationed at the former airbase practiced the construction of emergency bridges with timber which had been sawn in the sawmill near the airbase. One Colonel Shvenkov (phonetic spelling) was identified as being the political officer at Goerries airbase. [] One Colonel Kuznin (Chu) was the supply officer there. [] The general who was stationed at the airbase rode in sedan []

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Comment. The report generally confirms previous information on the occupation of the military installations in Schwerin.

It is of interest that the strength estimates [] of paragraphs 1 to 6 considerably surpass those previously made, and indicate the strength of the 94th Gds Mts Rifle Div as about 15,000 men. It is believed [] estimates [] were too high. The reduction of training activity at the barracks installations, observed since the beginning and the middle of March 1952, may possibly be caused by the increase of training activity of components of the 94th Gds Mts Rifle Div and of the IX Mts Rifle Corps in the Grivitz and/or Forst Buchholz training area. The Zippendorf training area is about 7 km southeast of Schwerin. The tents seen at the Adolf Hitler Kaserne on 17 March are believed to have stayed there only temporarily.

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